Representations from Casual Ground Workers of Calcutta Doordarshan

529. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the casual programme assistants now know as causal ground workers of Calcutta Doordarshan;

(b) whether it is a fact that their daily renumeration of Rs. 85/- has now been reduced to Rs. 75/-;

(c) whether appointment of some of such casual ground workers who were earlier selected by the Union Public Service Commission for appointment as Programme Executives was delayed;

(d) what are the other points raised in the representations given during July, 1991 and what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes Sir. Representations have been received from persons engaged on casual basis assisting in the process of production of programmes.

(b) Persons are engaged on casual basis based on programmewise requirements. They are not paid on daily basis. They are paid Rs. 250|- per programme.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Request has been made in the representation for their regularisation. There is no scheme at present for regularisation of such persons engaged on casual basis.

Amount Spent on Import of Fertilizers

530. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount spent for import of fertilizers during 1990;

(b) what is the estimated amount to be spent during 1991 for this purpose;

(c) the amount of fertilizers subsidy provided by Government during 1990;

(d) whether Government propose to change the criteria for giving subsidy on fertilizers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MISINTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The total value of the finished fertilizers imported during the financial year 1990-91 is Rs. 1335.82 crores. MMTC, which is the canalising agency for the import of fertilizers, has already finalised contracts for the import of finished fertilizers worth Rs. 1110.00 crores in the current year. The amount of subsidy given on indigenous and imported fertilizers during 1990-91 was Rs. 4389.06 crores.

(d) and (e) With effect from 25.7.1991. Government has withdrawn subsidy on certain fertilizers like Calcium Ammonium Nitrate, Ammonium Sulphate, Ammonium Chloride and Sulphate of Potash. It has also been decided that in respect of Single Super Phosphate, there shall be a ceiling on the subsidy per tonne payable to producers.

Demand for Central Assistance by States

531. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Government have demanded Central assistance for economic development of the States;

(b) if so, the amount of Central assistance demanded by various State Governments during the last three years and the amount of Central assistance provided by Government to each State Government;

(c) whether Government propose to provide more Central assistance to Tamil Nadu; and